What is claimed is:

1.   A system for authenticating a memory card, the system, comprising:

   a memory card host device including a plural area authentication

5   module which judges whether the memory card has plural storage areas,

and an area switching module which switches a storage area subject to

access a different storage area from among plural storage areas;

   a memory card including plural storage areas, at least one internal

register which retains a value indicating the number of storage areas, and a

10   controller which transmits the value indicating the number of the storage

areas to the memory card host device; and

   a bus which transmits and receives data between the memory card

host device and the memory card.

15   2.   A host device exchanging information with a memory card with plural

storage areas in a memory card authentication system, the host device,

comprising:

   a plural area authentication module which judges whether the

memory card has plural storage areas; and

20   an area switching module which switches a storage area subject to

access a different storage area among the plural storage areas.

3.   The host device of claim 2, wherein the plural area authentication

module judges whether the memory card has plural storage areas from a

25   flag in a reserved area of an internal register of the memory card, the flag

being received from the memory card and retaining a number of the storage

areas.

4. The host device of claim 2, wherein the plural area authentication module judges whether the memory card has the plural storage areas depending on a value in an internal register for the plural storage areas of the memory card, the value being received from the memory card and retaining a number of the storage areas.

5. The host device of claim 2, wherein the area switching module performs switching by use of a command including, as an argument, a bit series indicating a storage area to be switched to, or a flag indicating an increase or a decrease to the storage area to be switched to from a storage area currently referred to.

6. The host device of claim 2, wherein the area switching module performs switching by use of a command including an address of a storage area to be switched to as an argument.

7. The host device of claim 6, wherein the area switching module performs switching by use of a command including an address in a block unit as an argument, the block unit being set by defining a given number of bytes as one block.

8. A memory card, comprising:

plural storage areas;

at least one internal register in which a flag indicating the number

of storage areas is added to a reserved area thereof; and

a controller which transmits the flag to a memory card host device which controls information on the storage areas.

5 9. A memory card, comprising:

plural storage areas;

an internal register for the plural storage areas which retains a number of the plural storage areas; and

a controller which transmits a value in the internal register for the

10 plural storage areas to a memory card host device which controls information on the storage areas.

10. The memory card of claim 8 or 9, wherein the controller switches the storage areas depending on a command received from the memory host

15 device, the command including, as an argument, a bit sequence indicating a storage area to be switched to, or a flag indicating an increase or a decrease to the storage area to be switched to from a storage area currently referred to and a flag indicating a decrease therefrom.

20 11. The memory card of claim 8 or 9, wherein the controller performs switching to a storage area to be switched to depending on a command received from the memory card host device, the command including an address of the storage area to be switched to as an argument.

25 12. The memory card of claim 11, wherein the controller performs switching to the storage area to be switched to depending on a command

22

including an address in a block unit as an argument, the block unit being set by defining a given number of bytes as one block.

13. A memory card, comprising:

5   plural storage areas;

a mechanical switch which selects one of the plural storage areas; and

a controller which reflects the storage area selected by the mechanical switch to an internal register.

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14. The memory card of claim 8, 9 or 13, wherein the plural storage areas adopt different file systems.

15. The memory card of claim 8, 9 or 13,

15   wherein the memory card has dimensions of 24 X 32 X 2.1 mm; and

the memory card includes a copyright protection function corresponding to the secure digital music initiative standard.

16. A method for switching storage areas; comprising:

20   reading a value in an internal register of a memory card by a memory card host device;

judging whether the memory card has plural storage areas by the memory card host device; and

switching a storage area subject to access a different storage area

25 from among the plural storage areas by the memory card host device.

17.   The method of claim 16, wherein the step of judging whether the memory card has plural storage areas includes judging by a flag in a reserved area of an internal register of the memory card, the flag being received from the memory card and retaining the number of the storage

5   areas.

18.   The method of claim 16, wherein the step of judging whether the memory card has plural storage areas includes judging by a value in an internal register for the plural storage areas of the memory card, the value

10   being received from the memory card and retaining a number of the storage areas

19.   The method of claim 16, wherein the step of switching the storage areas includes switching by use of a command including, as an argument, a

15   bit series indicating a storage area to be switched to, or a flag indicating an increase or a decrease to the storage area to be switched to from a storage area currently referred to.

20.   The method of claim 16, wherein the step of switching the storage

20   areas includes switching by use of a command including an address of a storage area to be switched to as an argument.

21.   The method of claim 16, wherein the step of switching the storage areas includes switching by use of a command including an address in a

25   block unit as an argument, the block unit being set by defining a given number of bytes as one block.

22.   A storage area switching computer program product to be executed by a host device, the host device exchanging information with a memory card with plural storage areas in a memory card authentication system, the

5   computer program product, comprising:

instructions for the host device to read a value in an internal register of the memory card;

instructions for the host device to judge whether the memory card has plural storage areas; and

10   instructions for the host device to switch a storage area subject to access to a different storage area from among the plural storage areas.